

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION ICA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9999

LIMITEDOFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1564

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, SGEN, SOPN, CE

SUBJ: EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

REF: STATE 051579

1. UNFORTUNATELY, EMBASSY COLOMBO DOES NOT HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP BY MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS (MNC'S) IN SRI LANKA.
 2. DURING THE PERIOD OF 1970-77, WHEN THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA (GSL) WAS IN POWER, SEVERAL MNC'S WERE NATIONALIZED, AND THE SURVIVORS HAVE MAINTAINED VERY LOW PROFILES. THERE ARE NOT MANY MNC'S IN THE COUNTRY (ONLY FOUR AMERICAN WITH EQUITY INVESTMENT), AND THEY HAVE GENERALLY TRIED TO AVOID TAKING ANY ACTION, GOOD OR BAD, WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THEM TO PUBLIC NOTICE. THE JULY 1977 CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT HAS PRODUCED A MUCH MORE FAVORABLE BUSINESS CLIMATE, HOWEVER, AND THE MNC'S MAY NOW BE MORE WILLING TO ENGAGE IN IMAGE BUILDING, SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAMS.
- WRIGGINS

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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